

US-PAT-NO: 6166765
 DOCUMENT- US 6166765 A
 IDENTIFIER:
 TITLE: Electronic imaging apparatus selecting an operating mode responsive to the condition of a lens barrier assembly
 DATE-ISSUED: December 26, 2000

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

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 US-CL-CURRENT: 348/220.1, 348/333.01

ABSTRACT:

In an electronic still camera has a lens barrier, a mode switching instruction for switching a photography mode, in which an image signal representing an object image fetched by a photographic lens unit is output as a video signal by an image signal processing unit, and a reproduction mode, in which a reproduced signal processing unit is operated to supply the video signal to an LCD monitor, is issued on the basis of an output of a barrier switch to be turned on or off responsive to an opening or closing movement made by the lens barrier. Thus, a user-friendly electronic imaging apparatus enabling ready selection of the photography mode or reproduction mode can be provided.

4 Claims, 27 Drawing figures

Exemplary Claim Number: 1

Number of Drawing Sheets: 20

Abstract Text - ABTX (1):

In an electronic still camera has a lens barrier, a mode switching instruction for switching a photography mode, in which

United States Patent [19] US06166765A
 Toyofuku [11] Patent Number: 6,166,765
 [45] Date of Patent: Dec. 26, 2000

[54] ELECTRONIC IMAGING APPARATUS SELECTING AN OPERATING MODE RESPONSIVE TO THE CONDITION OF A LENS BARRIER ASSEMBLY
 5,628,965 10/1996 Hodges et al. 348/231

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

03303496A 10/1994 Japan 348/232

Primary Examiner—Wendy Gohar
 Assistant Examiner—Alicia Harrington
 Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Hahn & Kinney, PC

[57] ABSTRACT

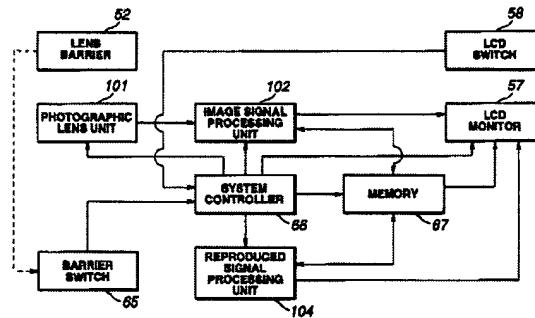
In an electronic still camera has a lens barrier, a mode switching instruction for switching a photography mode, in which an image signal representing an object image fetched by a photographic lens unit is output as a video signal by an image signal processing unit, and a reproduction mode, in which a reproduced signal processing unit is operated to supply the video signal to an LCD monitor, is issued on the basis of an output of a barrier switch to be turned on or off responsive to an opening or closing movement made by the lens barrier. Thus, a user-friendly electronic imaging apparatus enabling ready selection of the photography mode or reproduction mode can be provided.

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,662,279 4/1991 Takezawa 348/575

4 Claims, 20 Drawing Sheets



	Document ID	Issue Date	Pages	Title
52	<input type="checkbox"/> US 6166765 A	2000/12/26	30	Electronic imaging apparatus selecting an operating mode
63	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US 6067116 A	2000/05/23	29	Digital camera

Details Text Image HTML Full

Claim 4

camera lens, which will obviously prevent the taking of a satisfactory picture.

Brief Summary Text - BSTX (5):

In accordance with one of the features of the present invention, a camera handle is provided which is uniquely designed and related to the camera housing so that when it is in its extended position it is in a position only to be gripped by the user's left hand, so that the user is forced to place his right hand in the most convenient housing gripping position where it is cupped around the right side of the camera. A related specific feature of this aspect of the invention is that the handle of the camera in its extended position is so related to the camera housing that the user would automatically grip the handle rather than the left side of the camera housing, which he cannot conveniently grip because of the placement of the handle in a position projecting both laterally outwardly as well as laterally downwardly from the left side of the camera housing.

Drawing Description Text - DRTX (3):

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the camera with the handle-cover fully extended to serve as a hand grip for the user's left hand;

Detailed Description Text - DETX (5):

The front side wall portion 2C of the handle 2 covers the picture taking lens 5 when the handle is in its closed position. Side wall portions 2D and 2E of the handle then also cover the front and rear windows 8 of the viewfinder. It will also be noted that, whereas the picture-taking lens 5 and the viewfinder 8 are completely shielded from dust when the hand grip 2 is in the closed position, a shutter release button 6 and a built-in flash 7 remain exposed.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (7):

The handle 2 is preferably sufficiently large to serve as a convenient hand grip when deployed to its opened or extended position. Also, because of its thin-walled construction, it adds very little overall bulk to the camera when it is in its closed position. Also, in its fully extended position it projects both

U.S. Patent May 29, 1984 Sheet 2 of 5 4,451,130

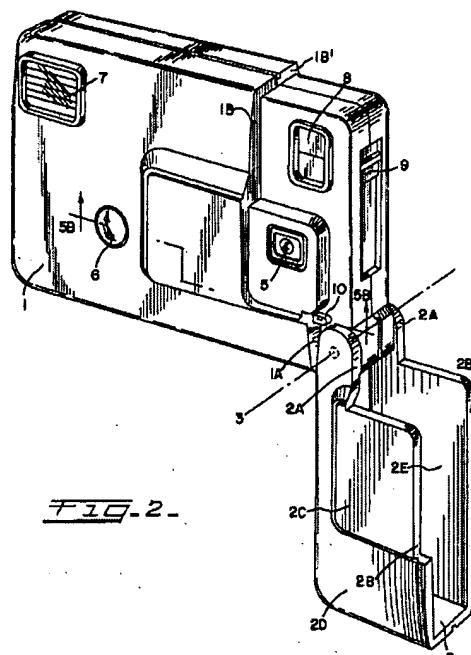


FIG. 2.

Document ID	Create Date	Pages	Links
1 US 4451130 A 19840529 12 Disc camera with handle grip cover			

Details | Text | Images | HTML | Full

claim 2 grip.